

PATENT**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1, 2, 13, 14 and 20 as indicated below. This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1.(currently amended): A method for providing a cryptographic service utilizing a server on a network, comprising:
- (a) identifying a client utilizing the network;
 - (b) establishing a first key;
 - (c) generating a tunnel on the network;
 - (d) receiving ~~information~~ a second key at the server from the client utilizing the tunnel, wherein the second key ~~information~~ is encrypted by the client using the first key, the second key being a private key of a key pair; and
 - (e) performing the cryptographic service at the server for the client, the server using the second key to perform the cryptographic service, whereby the server off-loads a computational burden associated with the cryptographic service from the client.
- 2.(currently amended): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~thea~~ a second key is encrypted by the client using the first key; ~~and further comprising receiving the second key at the server.~~
- 3.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the second key comprises at least one parameter for the cryptographic service performed by the server.
- 4.(canceled)
- 5.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the cryptographic service includes modular exponentiation.
- 6.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting cryptographic service results to the client.

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- 7.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising: the step of encrypting the cryptographic service results utilizing the first key.
- 8.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the cryptographic service results are transmitted to a third party.
- 9.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of charging a fee for the cryptographic service performed by the server.
- 10.(original): A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the fee is charged to the client.
- 11.(original): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first key comprises an encryption key for a symmetric cipher.
- 12.(original): A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first key comprises an encryption key for an asymmetric cipher.
- 13.(currently amended): A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for providing a cryptographic service utilizing a server on a network, comprising:
- (a) a code segment for identifying a client utilizing the network;
 - (b) a code segment for establishing a first key;
 - (c) a code segment for generating a tunnel on the network;
 - (d) a code segment for receiving ~~information~~ a second key at the server from the client utilizing the tunnel, wherein the ~~information~~ second key is encrypted by the client using the first key, the second key being a private key of a key pair; and
 - (e) a code segment for performing the cryptographic service at the server for the client, the server using the second key to perform the cryptographic service, whereby the server off-loads a computational burden associated with the cryptographic service from the client.

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- 14.(currently amended): A computer program as recited in claim 13, wherein thea second key is encrypted by the client using the first key, and further comprising a code segment for receiving the second key at the server.
- 15.(previously presented): A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the second key comprises at least one parameter for the cryptographic service performed by the server.
- 16.(canceled):
- 17.(previously presented): A computer program as recited in claim 13, wherein the cryptographic service includes modular exponentiation.
- 18.(previously presented): A computer program as recited in claim 13, further comprising a code segment that transmits the cryptographic service results to the client.
- 19.(previously presented): A computer program as recited in claim 18, further comprising a code segment that encrypts the cryptographic service results utilizing the first key.
- 20.(currently amended): A system for providing a cryptographic service utilizing a server on a network, comprising:
- (a) logic for identifying a client utilizing the network;
 - (b) logic for establishing a first key;
 - (c) logic for generating a tunnel on the network;
 - (d) logic for receiving ~~information~~ a second key at the server from the client utilizing the tunnel, wherein the ~~information~~ second key is encrypted by the client using the first key, the second key being a private key of a key pair; and
 - (e) logic for performing the cryptographic service at the server for the client, the server using the second key to perform the cryptographic service, whereby the

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server off-loads a computational burden associated with the cryptographic service from the client.

21.(previously presented): A method as recited in claim 3, wherein a message or a cyphertext comprises a second parameter for the cryptographic service performed by the server.

22.(original): A method as recited in claim 21, wherein the message or cyphertext has been blinded by the user before transmittal to the server.